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Message Text

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62
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 EA-09 INSE-00 AID-05 VO-03

HEW-06 /040 W
---------- 077454
R 311620Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6477
INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS PARIS 34008

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS/ AFSP, SREF, CVIS
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEE PROGRAM

REF: PARIS 6371

FRANKFURT PASS INSCO

1. AS POINTED OUT REFTEL, SEASIA REFUGEE PROGRAM CONTINUES HAVE HEAVY IMPACT ON WORKLOAD AND STAFFING OF VISA OFFICE PARIS -- SUFFICIENTLY SO THAT THE EMBASSY HAS FELT COMPELLED TO REQUEST RETENTION OF ONE OF TWO P.I.T. POSITIONS CURRENTLY BEING USED TO SUPPORT THIS EFFORT.
2. IN ATTEMPT TO FILL GAP LEFT BY INCUMBENT'S DEPARTURE, PARIS WILL MAKE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL CHANGES IN ITS REFUGEE PROCESSING PROCEDURES BEGINNING JANUARY 1. ACTION REQUESTS ON NEW CASES WHETHER DEPARTMENTALLY, CONGRESSIONALLY OR OTHERWISE ORIGINATED, WILL BE SCREENED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, AS WILL THOSE ORIGINATING FROM WALK-INS. ONLY THE MOST COMPELLINGLY URGENT HOWEVER WILL BE ENTERED INTO THE PIPE-LINE FOR CONSIDERATION ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS BY ORM IN CONJUNCTION WITH INS/CO WASHINGTON. ALL RPT ALL OTHERS WILL BE DIRECTED TO PARIS OFFICES OF PARTICIPATING VOLAGS FOR PRELIMINARY SCREENING AND SUBSEQUENT PROCESSING BY INS FRANKFURT UNDER THE 7TH
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PREFERENCE PROVISIONS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY

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ACT. INS/CO FRANKFURT HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY INS DECISION TO PROCESS FUTURE SEA CASES IN THIS MANNER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH VOLAGS HAVE INDICATED AN EQUAL WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THIS ROUTE. PIPE-LINE CASES (THERE ARE PRESENTLY SOME 150) WILL BE PROCESSED TO A CONCLUSION.

3. EMBASSY FULLY AWARE THAT THIS EFFORTO RE-DIRECT THE SEASIA FLOW INTO MORE TRADITIONAL REFUGEE PROCESSING CHANNELS MAY MEET WITH ONLY LIMITED SUCESS, DUE TO THE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL AND POLITICAL CONTENT OF MANY OF THE CASES IVOLVED, AND THE RESULTANT PRESSURES WHICH MAY BE BROUGHT TO BEAR. DIVEN THE PERSONNEL CONSTRAINTS AND STEEPLY RISING REGULAR VISA WORKLOAD (SUBJECT OF SEPTEL PRESENTLY IN PREPARATION) IT FEELS IT HAS NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TRY.
GAMMON

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